



THE NEXT EMPRESS OF JAPAN.



Fifteen-Year-Old Princess Sada Was Picked Out From the Third Grade of the High School to Become the Bride of Prince Yoshihito.



PRINCESS SADA KUNO
THE FUTURE EMPRESS OF JAPAN.



THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF JAPAN.



THE PRINCE IMPERIAL
OF JAPAN

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Special Correspondence of The Sunday Republic.
Tokyo, Japan, Jan. 7, 1900. The next Empress of Japan has been selected and the young lady is already in training. It has been decided that the Prince Imperial shall be married at the earliest possible moment, and as soon as the details of his wedding can be settled, the fact will be announced to the world. The highest officials of the Japanese Government are now considering the matter, preparations are being made to celebrate the wedding on the grandest scale, and within a short time the young prince and his bride will be discussed in every capital of the world. To-day practically nothing is known about either of them, and it was to learn all that possible could be ascertained concerning the wedding and the contracting parties that I went today with letters from the American Minister to the household department of the Emperor, to see the grounds of the Imperial palace, to have an interview with Baron Sanmomiya, the grand master of ceremonies to his Imperial Majesty.

Armed with a location passport and with two of the fastest and smallest of the Japanese runners as my human steeds, I dashed over the two great mountains which separate the holy of holies from the rest of the city, went to the official in charge of the gates with the aid of my papers and was soon in the presence of the man who more than all others has to do with the court ceremonies and the private life of the Emperor and his family. This was Baron Sanmomiya, who for some time has been at the head of the household department of his Majesty, and who naturally knows more about the Imperial family than any other man in Japan. The Baron speaks English fluently, and it was in this language that our conversation was conducted. He talked very freely about the Prince Imperial and his affianced, giving me much of the information which will be found further on.

The Sacred Emperor of Japan.
We were talking almost under the shadow of the Emperor's apartments, and as we discussed the wedding and its ceremonies I

could not help contrasting the marriage which the Prince Imperial will have with that which his father had when he was still, to a large extent, a part of the old Japan. Such an interview would have been impossible then. It would have probably caused the death of both myself and Baron Sanmomiya, for at that time, about thirty years ago, his Majesty was revered as a god by the people. It was treason to utter his name aloud, and in writing a letter it was always left out from reverence. Then came his wife and his children and later ever saw his face. He was pointed out in his palace at Kyoto, and when he went out it was in a closely guarded carriage drawn by bullocks. Now the Emperor goes everywhere. He is the real ruler of the country, and both himself and the Empress are often seen by the better classes of Japan. When the Emperor was married the Empress, according to the then custom, showed her eyebrows and blackened her teeth, so that they should be like the color of ebony.

This is still done in the country districts of Japan, and is supposed to show the wife's devotion to her husband in that she wishes to make herself as unattractive as possible. The Empress does not do this, but she does blacken her teeth, and it is thought that the custom has been abolished in Japan. At that time no Japanese wife would have thought of calling at the same time with her husband. I have learned that the Emperor and the Empress are now in good ways the same as the other great rulers of the earth, and this will be the case with the Prince Imperial and his bride.

The Imperial Household.
Before I discuss the wedding itself let me tell you something of the Imperial household. It is a household of the Imperial family, and it is a household of the Imperial family. The Imperial household is a household of the Imperial family, and it is a household of the Imperial family. The Imperial household is a household of the Imperial family, and it is a household of the Imperial family.

He has a magnificent, I am told, and is almost constantly under the care of the doctors. This has been the case for the greater part of his life. Not long ago Marquis Ito and others of the Emperor's advisers wanted the boy to take a trip around the world and he has spent some time in the United States and Europe, but the doctors objected, saying that he might die on the way. It is hoped that his marriage may so better his health that he will be able to make the tour.

The Crown Prince, or the Prince Imperial, as he should be called, is not the real son of the Emperor of Japan, although he is her son by adoption. His Majesty has adopted to him a Japanese boy, who is a son of a noble family of the empire, and whose blood is blue with the grandfathers of a thousand years. These women of blue are never mentioned in the reports of the court, and no one knows anything of them. They are, however, and are kept in order that his Majesty may not be without an heir. The Prince's real mother is Madame Yamaguchi, one of the court ladies, the Empress not having and a son herself. The Prince, in fact, is the only son his Majesty has had who has lived, and it should be the successor, for the Prince has no child before him, but he will have to go to a Prince who is not very closely related to the Emperor. On this account all the greater care is taken of the young man's health and the anxiety concerning his marriage is intense.

The Empress, as I have said, has made the Prince her son by adoption. She is very fond of him, taking the liveliest interest in his wedding and in everything that relates to him and his bride.

The young Prince is popular in Tokyo. He has been educated in the Nobles' School and has shown himself as smart as other boys of his age. He has had a modern education as well as the old Japanese education, and knows something of German and English, but not enough to speak them. He is a fair good French scholar and converses in that language with foreigners. He is affable and diplomatic and will make, it is thought, a good Emperor.

The Bluest Blood on Earth.

The wedding will join two of the oldest families of Japan, or rather it will join two branches of the same family together, for the Prince and his bride are cousins. His blood is, perhaps, a shade bluer than hers, although she can trace her ancestors farther back than any sovereign who now sits upon a throne in Christendom. Princess Sada Kuno is the third daughter of Prince Kuno,



PRINCESS SADA IN STREET DRESS.

a descendant of the famous Fujiwara family, which was the controlling power in Japan from the seventh to the eleventh century. During those years the Fujiwaras were little more than puppets, managed by the real rulers, the Emperors. The daughters in these cases often became the empresses. The Prince's mother, who was a daughter of the Fujiwara family, was a noble family of Japan, all of which have come from the ancient Fujiwaras. The Prince's mother was a sister of the late Empress Dowager, which makes her a cousin of her future husband.

The Prince's paternal grandfather, who died about A. D. 600. The Prince Imperial can do as well, and no her about 1200 years better, and if any unimpaired lineage in the family was taken by her not knowing her grandfathers further back than a thousand years. His ancestry, according to Japanese history, begins with Jimmu Tenno, who ruled Japan 600 B. C. or long before Rome became a city.

The Imperial Heir.
But let me tell you something about this young lady who is to be the future Empress of Japan. We should call her a girl rather than a lady if she were in the United States. She is only fifteen, and last year she was trotting about on her little Japanese shoes to and from the Empress's school. She was in the third grade of the High School there when she was told one day that the Emperor had picked her out to be the wife of the Prince Imperial, and that she must leave the publicity of her present method of education and be taught for the next few months at home. Her parents received the news, I do not know, I suppose, however, like any good Japanese girl would do, she smiled and consented without a murmur. Her parents celebrated her leaving the school by giving a dinner of thanks to her teachers. The Princess Sada insisted that her classmates should also be invited, and they came to the number of twenty.

From one of the native Japanese papers I have had translated some interesting details of the school life and studies of Princess Sada. She entered the school in the kindergarten classes and has been there ever since. She has always been regular in her attendance and has uniformly stood high in her classes. She loved her school and was a general favorite with her fellows. She usually walked to and from school, except in very bad weather, and she was engaged in all the plays. She has always been robust and strong and her good health

is one of the most important considerations in her marriage. She is a most carefully watched and trained to do anything that may endanger her health. Her studies on this account have been hindered and her hours of exercise and rest have been reduced.

The Prince is well advanced for her age. When she left school her studies were Japanese and Chinese literature, universal history, French, mathematics, penmanship and drawing. She has dropped everything but her studies, geography and French, and is devoting more time to her studies. She has private tutors, who come to her house to teach her. The Prince is noted for her poetic ability. She writes beautifully, and her cherry tree effusions are said to be especially fine. In both music and poetry she will do with the present Empress, who is noted as one of the most beautiful artists of Japanese poetry. Her Imperial Majesty displayed remarkable poetic ability when she was as young as the Princess Sada, and her poems are now celebrated in the Japanese literature of the age.

The Wedding Ceremony.
Baron Sanmomiya tells me that it has not been decided when the wedding ceremony will take place. It will be in the style of the old Japanese custom from the Imperial household and the Emperor will be the new custom. It is according to the old custom that the bride and groom should be married in the presence of the Emperor. The rules of etiquette in such cases are very minute, and everything must be done just so. The bride goes the first drink and the groom follows after. The cuts in which the wine is served are very small, and the Princess will drink three of them before the Prince will be served with the same number. After this there is more drinking in about the same way, the bride always being served first. This is in contrast to the custom after marriage, where the husband is always served before the wife. At the beginning of the wedding ceremonies the bride is dressed in white, but when the

ceremony is over she retires and changes her costume for one which is a present from her parents. At the same time the groom also changes his attire for one which has been given to him by the parents of the bride.

The wedding of the Prince Imperial, if it is carried out after the old method, will be about as above described, but the happy and auspicious which follow will be in European style. The Prince Imperial and his Imperial Highness, Princess Sada, will dress in foreign costume and will act as guests of honor at the wedding. The wedding will be a most magnificent affair, and it will be a most magnificent affair, and it will be a most magnificent affair.

The Princess and the Prince.
But how about the bride's trousseau? Well, no one knows just what it will consist of as yet, but the preparations are going on very fast. The silk mills of Japan are at work producing their finest stuffs for the Princess, stuffs that will stand alone and be admired outside of the Empire.

The Empress herself has become interested in the matter, and the costumes are being made by the Imperial dressmaker in the palace of her Majesty. The cutting and fitting is largely under the direction of the noble ladies of the court, the sewing being done by the workwomen. The hats and jewelry are being made by her Majesty's own milliners, and a great part of the trousseau will be of Japanese materials. At the same time many things are being imported from Paris, London and Berlin, so that all together the bride's outfit will be something wonderful, even for these times. As to its cost, no one can tell. Prince Kuno himself is not very rich, but he has given his daughter 100,000 yen, or \$2000, for the purpose, and to this the Emperor has added 50,000 more. This sum is equal to about \$20,000 in gold, and it certainly should be enough to cover the expenses of the Imperial marriage. It should be noted, however, that the Princess can draw further on his Majesty, for he has just directed that a present of 70,000 yen, equal to \$14,000 in gold, be given to her out of the estate of the late Empress Dowager, who was her aunt. This makes her allowance for trousseau, pin-money, etc., considerably more than half a million in gold, and she certainly should be able to buy some pretty things for that.

As to presents, starting out with these

from his Majesty, the Imperial bride couple will have no end of them. They will come in every shape and form from all parts of the Empire and from high and low. There will be cranes and turtles of solid gold and solid silver without number. These things are emblematic of longevity and are very common as wedding gifts in Japan. The poor will give as well as the rich, and if the Prince and Princess are anything like the Emperor and Empress they will be delighted to receive any expression from even the poorest of their subjects.

The New Palace of the Prince.
In the meantime a brand-new house is being erected for his Imperial Highness and the two can begin their housekeeping with everything snug and span from the start. The ground has already been broken and materials are being prepared. The new home will, however, be something more than the Governor of the average newly married pair. It will be three stories high, and will cover three acres, or almost as much ground as our Capitol at Washington. It will cost about \$1,000,000 in gold. The architects and designers have been

working on it for some time, and they have made the plans of a palace which is like no other in the world.

It is a combination of foreign and Japanese architecture, constructed with a view of withstanding the earthquakes which are so common in Japan. Its framework is to be of steel and iron, so fitted together that it cannot break. The steel and iron work is now being made at Pittsburgh, the architect having recently returned from the United States, where he went to place the orders for its construction. I am told that about 4,000 tons of steel and iron work have been ordered and that it is almost ready for shipment. It will be transported by rail to the Pacific, and thence by steamer to Japan.

The Prince Imperial has for several years had his own establishment entirely separate and apart from that of the Emperor. He has his own servants and secretaries and holds, in fact, a little court of his own. He will probably take his bride to his present palace and live there until the new palace is completed.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

BRAINY MISSOURI WOMEN.

One of Them Founded the First Woman's Literary Club in the United States.

WRITTEN FOR THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC.
In St. Joseph, Mo., resides the woman who gathered together the first woman's literary club ever organized in the United States. It was at New Harmony, O., in 1858, and Constance Faintner, now Mrs. Rundle, was its promoter.

St. Joseph is also the home of one of the pioneer newspaper women of the State, Mrs. Ella Sites Kerechval, who edited the "Gazette" more than twenty-two years ago.

Mrs. Retha Welch, a short-story writer, who is rapidly earning for herself a name in the magazine world, is likewise a resident of this city. And there is an interesting volume of "Folk Lore Stories" gathered from the resident colored population, that is the product of a St. Joseph woman's pen, Miss Mary Owens. Its author is a brilliant woman and a charming writer.

Mrs. Rundle is the founder of the "Rundle Club." She is a versatile woman, strong and unique in character, and of marked ability. The "Rundle Club," one of the strongest literary organizations of the State, owes its existence entirely to her. It is composed of about 100 of the brightest women in St. Joseph, and is pursuing a comprehensive course of study that is quite a credit to its membership.

Mrs. Rundle claims that her club holds a unique position among the clubs of the State, in that its government is royal rather than democratic. It was organized by her six years ago, at the earnest solicitation of the ladies of the town, and at a time when financial reverses made it necessary for her to resume her literary labors for remunerative purposes.

Accordingly, she drew up her own constitution and by-laws, assumed all the duties and responsibilities of president, appointed and committee and assistant officers, and was chief judge of the qualifications of all members. In exchange for this she is cheerfully paid \$5 per year by each member, thus yielding her an annual income of \$500.

The meetings occur weekly in her parlors, which are quite the quietest and most original rooms imaginable. She planned and built her home many years ago. Its chief architectural feature is a square massive chimney of glazed brick, that runs through the center of a room comprising almost the entire first floor of the building. This breaks up the apartment into four imaginary rooms, which have been furnished as a library, a study, a parlor and a bedroom. The whole effect is most pleasing and furnishes a charming clubhouse.

Constance Faintner Rundle was born in Indiana in 1836. Her father, Robert Henry Faintner, was a Virginia planter, though born in France. Her mother was a Scotch woman, and Scotch characteristics of manner and speech seem to predominate in Mrs. Rundle. Nature endowed with a fine mind, she was also given a superior education. She spent six years in Europe, in study at the Stuttgart University and in travel.

Three years after her return to the United States Constance Faintner married Dr. James Rundle, an Indiana doctor, and moved to Madison, Ind. In 1862 she organized a club, then called the "Rundle Club," which still exists and is in a flourishing state. Both these clubs are older than the "Society" of New York, organized thirty years ago by Jennie June. Mrs. Rundle, in club circles the Sorors is regarded as the pioneer club, but Mrs. Rundle does not claim that hers were the first club. But Mrs. Sewell, the president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs,

says in a printed address delivered before the National Federation at Indianapolis: "All honor to Constance Faintner, who founded the first woman's club at New Harmony, O., forty years ago."

Nearly thirty years ago Doctor Rundle moved his family from Madison to St. Joseph, where he was the pastor of Christ Episcopal church until his death, fifteen years ago. Mrs. Rundle has always been a remarkably active woman, both physically and mentally, and she is young despite her years.

Of her literary compositions, two novels and a book of poems have been published besides several smaller works, notably, one entitled "The Burning Question." It is on the subject of divorce, and it is taken the same high ground as that held by most orthodox Episcopalians.

In reply to the question, recently asked her, "Do you favor women's rights?" Mrs. Rundle said, with a firm shake of her head: "No, I do not. While I am an advanced woman, and am usually in sympathy with advanced causes, I do not believe in the right of a woman to be a man's equal. I am a woman, and I am thankful that I do not have to vote."

In addition to a fine literary education, Mrs. Rundle has also received excellent musical training. And she has given good account of this in the composition of both secular and sacred music. Songs, instrumental pieces, pieces for the organ and violin have been published. Her most ambitious musical undertaking is an opera entitled "The Prince of Asturias." Attempts to produce it have been made, but it has not yet been produced. The opera is still in manuscript.

The "Habensta," a gypsy dance, is also a composition of hers that has been produced for Sousa's Band. A song entitled "Invocation to Love" Mrs. Rundle regards as her best musical composition, one of her anthems, "Hear, O Hear Us" was sung in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, not long since.

Mrs. Ella Sites Kerechval, for twenty-two years editor of the society organ of the Gazette, was the first white child born in Kansas City after it was organized as a town. She was educated at Mary Institute in St. Louis, and was married to Dr. James Kerechval, who was a son of the Rev. John Kerechval of St. Joseph. When ill health and financial reverses came to her husband, she took up her pen and with it supported the family of the family. Now she does the book review work and makes notes for the same paper also. Nor do her labors end here. Nineteen years ago she was the principal of the school of St. Joseph, and her occupations also carried on with ease and dignity.

Mrs. Retha Welch is the daughter of a newspaper man, who was himself a native of Missouri. L. A. Welch, her father, was one of Shelby's men and went through the Civil War. He was the sponsor of the "Shelby" regiment. His daughter, Retha, was born near Mayville, Ky., though she has lived the greater part of her life in St. Joseph. She is both a daughter of the Confederacy and the Revolution, and a prominent member of St. Joseph society. She began writing stories when quite young and during the last few years has contributed a score of more to the various magazines and periodicals of the day. Her first story, "Four Smiths," was illustrated and printed in a little booklet by a Kansas City artist, O'Brien. The "Faintner of Retha" founded on the original of Cinderella. "The Golden Bird," "The Lost Melody," "Mendels and Jakes," have obtained some notoriety. The last named, "Jakes," has received more favorable notice as an advance criticism, than any other. It is a possible love story founded on the biblical character. This story was published about two years ago in the Ladies' Home Journal. It has since been adapted and used in the Chicago School of drama.

ELLA L. BROWN.



MISS MARY A. LINDSAY, daughter of Reverend S. I. Lindsay, who won the gold medal in the recent oratorical contest, held under the auspices of the St. Louis Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Her selection was entitled "Pledge With Wine." The above is a representation of her recent appearance in "Queen Esther."